

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00  
PM-03 DODE-00 L-01 IO-06 EURE-00 /043 W  
-----043999 221631Z /43  
P 221530Z JUN 77  
FM USMISSION USBERLIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4788

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 1659

LIMDIS

E.O.11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, WB, US, UK, FR, UR  
SUBJECT: RUDOLF HESS: DISPOSAL OF REMAINS

REFS: A) BONN 1587; B) BONN 1212, C) BONN 832,  
D) 76 STATE 301274; E) 76 BONN 19026

1. AT 19 JANUARY LUNCHEON WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR ABRASIMOV,  
THE THEN UK AMBASSADOR TO BONN, SIR OLIVER WRIGHT HANDED  
ABRASIMOV A COPY OF A WESTERN PROPOSAL FOR A CHANGE IN  
THE FOUR POWER AGREED PROCEDURE FOR THE  
DISPOSITION OF HESS' REMAINS IN THE EVENT OF HIS DEATH  
WHILE IMPRISONED AT SPANDAU. THE PROPOSAL DETAILED A  
PROCEDURE WHEREBY UPON HESS' DEATH HIS BODY WOULD BE  
HANDED OVER TO HIS NEXT OF KIN FOR DISPOSITION OUTSIDE BERLIN;  
THIS WAS IN CONTRAST TO THE TERMS OF THE 1970 AGREEMENT  
WHEREBY UPON HIS DEATH HESS' BODY WOULD BE CREMATED UNDER  
FOUR POWER DIRECTION AND HIS ASHES HANDED OVER TO HIS  
NEXT OF KIN.

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2. AS REFTTEL A REPORTED, IT WAS NOT CLEAR WHETHER ABRASIMOV'S  
NEGATIVE RESPONSE AT THE TIME WAS DEFINITIVE OR PRELIMINARY.  
ACCORDINGLY IT WAS DECIDED THAT THE ALLIES WOULD  
WAIT AN INTERVAL BEFORE TRYING A FOLLOW-UP AT THE POLAD-  
KHOTULEV LEVEL.

3. ON 16 JUNE BRITISH POLAD RAISED MATTER WITH KHOTULEV. ONCE REMINDED OF THE WRIGHT-ABRASIMOV DISCUSSION AND THE ALLIED PROPOSAL, KHOTULEV REPLIED THAT ABRAISMOV'S NEGATIVE RESPONSE SHLULD BE CONSIDERED FIANL, AND THAT THE MATTER OF DISPOSITION OF HESS' REMAINS HAD BEEN STTLED BY THE 1970 AGREEMENT.

4. IN KEEPING WITH SCENARIO AGREED LAST NOVEMBER (REFTEL E), BRITISH WILL NOW GIVE SOVIETS WESTERN PROPOSAL OF HOW HESS'DEATH SHOULD BE HANDLED WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF 1970 AGREEMENT. THAT AGREEMENT DOES NOT COVER SPECIFICS OF WHO SHOULD DO WHAT IN THE EVENT. EXERCISE THUS FAR HAS CLARAIFIED EARLIER DOUBTS ABOUT WHETHER SOVIETS ADHERE TO 1970 AGREEMENT, THEY CLEARLY DO. ALLIED MISSIONS IN BERLIN HAVE LONG FELT A NEED TO BE PREPARED FOR THE EVENT ITSELF; A CONSIDERATION WHICH UNDERLAY DECISION TO APPROACH SOVIETS.

5. BRITISH AND FRENCH HERE FEEL THEY HAVE AUTHORITY TO PROCEED ACCORDING TO PARA 4 ABOVE. BRITISH IN BERLIN ARE PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS TO AVOID ANY ADDITIONAL LONDON INVOLVEMENT WHICH INVARIABLY LEADS TO LONG DELAYS AS NEW SET OF OFFICIALS NEED TO BE BRIEFED ON ENTIRE SPANDAU REGIME. WE REQUEST, CONFIDENTIAL

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THEREFORE, THAT CONTENTS THIS TELEGRAM NOT BE DISCUSSED WITH BRITISH AND FRENCH REPS OUTSIDE OF BERLIN.  
GEORGE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGREEMENTS, POW, INTERMENTS, DEATHS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 22-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977USBERL01659  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
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**Reference:** 77 BONN 1587, 77 BONN 1212, 77 BONN 832  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Subject:** RUDOLF HESS: DISPOSAL OF REMAINS  
**TAGS:** PGOV, WB, US, UK, FR, UR, (HESS, RUDOLF)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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